(a) whether Government are considering a proposal on Price Control Exemption for genetically engineered drugs;

(b) if so, the details of such an exemption proposed;

(c) whether Government will control the prices of other bulk drugs; and

(d) the details of genetically engineered drugs presently in the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) The Review of Drug Policy, 1986, which inter alia includes various aspects of price control is still under consideration of the Government.

Supply of Fertilizer Technology

3076. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that US administration has cleared an export licence to supply fertilizer technology to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) its likely impact on the fertilizer industry of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO); (a) to (c) US Government has approved the grant of an export licence to M/s. M. W. Kellogg (USA) to supply fertilizer retrofit technology to the Hazira plant of KRIBHCO. KRIBHCO will now be in a position to retrofit their ammonia plants at Hazira using kellogg's technology for enhancement of production.

Study on the impact of fertilizer subsidy reduction

3077. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study on impact of subsidy reduction on fertilizers in the Primary Agricultural Cooperatives Societies in different States was conducted by the National Cooperative Union of India recently;

(b) if so, the main findings of the study relating to West Bengal, Bihar and Rajasthan; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Naptha-Based Fertilizer Plants

3078. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Naptha-based fertilizer plants set up in the country;

(b) the annual production of fertilizers in these plants;

(c) the steps taken to augment fertilizer production in these plants; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) At present, there are 13 naphthabased fertilizer plants in the country. During the year 1993-94, these units produced 17.12 lakh tonnes of nitrogenous fertilizers in terms of nitrogen nutrient.

Out of the 13 naphtha-based plants, 6 are in the public sector, three of which stand referred to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction as sick units. Out of the remaining 3 in the public sector, the plant of M/s. Madras Fertilizers Ltd. at Manali (Madras) is being currently revamped to augment production, at a cost of Rs. 487.47 crores.